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Kan. Historical Society

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NO. 87

FUSION IN OKLAHOMA

Chairman O'Rourke Thinks He Sniffs Victory.

IF FREE HOMES CARRIES

Everybody Will be For Callahan, He Says.

HE CHUCKLES TO HIMSELF

Over Alleged Republican Hard Luck
--Fusion Likely to be Expedited, Though.

Guthrie, O. T., Feb. 24.—(Special).—Hon. Jerry O. Rourke, of El Reno, chairman of the Democratic territorial committee, is in the city on private business and incidentally feeling the Democratic pulse as it throbs and beats at the territorial capital. Contrary to report, Mr. O'Rourke has no fixed idea as to when he will call the territorial committee together, and he does not deem the political situation so urgent as to necessitate such a meeting for a month or two yet.

As to the much-discussed question of a fusion of all the free-soil forces of the territory for the next campaign, the success or non-success of the movement will depend largely upon the outcome of the Populist conference at Kingfisher next Friday. Personally, Mr. O'Rourke favors another fusion and he claims that the Democratic party is with him in this sentiment, with the possible exception of Cleveland, Pottawatomie and Greer counties, where the political feeling is decidedly against having any connection with the Populists.

Regarding the possibility of a Democrat receiving the fusion nomination for delegate to congress, Mr. O'Rourke does not express even a cordial hope, especially should the free homes bill become a law, in which event, he claims, Callahan would receive practically the unanimous endorsement of all the parties. He expects great things for next fall's campaign from the present free homes agitation.

"Any way you figure," he chuckled, "the Republicans are bound to be put in a hole for an issue next fall. If the bill passes the lower house of congress, Callahan is bound to get the credit, and should it be defeated the record will show that the Republicans in congress are responsible. The free homes matter is now in such shape that it cannot be disposed of without a direct vote which will put all the parties on record, and no matter how the Republicans vote on the question they are bound to help out the fusion cause in Oklahoma."

The story has been repeated many times, with more or less positive emphasis, that two years ago there was an agreement to the effect that if the Democrats would relinquish their claims and permit the nomination of a Populist for delegate to congress, the Populists two years later would support the nomination of a Democrat for delegate, and the active campaign which Judge Tom Lowe made in behalf of Callahan was cited as a proof that such an agreement existed, with the further understanding that the law was to receive Callahan's support in securing the nomination. Mr. O'Rourke, on being asked if such an agreement had been made positively denied any knowledge of it, claiming that if such was the case he would probably know something of the matter.

CHECKED THE WRONG TRUNK

Baggage-master Plays Smash With Governor's Wife's Plans.

Guthrie, O. T., Feb. 24.—(Special).—Mrs. Barnes and daughter, Mrs. Bessie, did not start for Chicago this morning to join the governor as they intended. Last night Mrs. Barnes, not knowing definitely how long she would be absent, packed the large family trunk with the more valuable articles of apparel and sent the trunk to the Santa Fe station to be checked to Chicago. This morning when the ladies repaired to the station to take the train, nothing was to be seen of the trunk. The baggage-master, when asked, recalled the fact that last night, just before the departure of the midnight train for the south, a young woman came to him and asked to have her trunk checked to Paris, Texas, at the same time pointing out the trunk belonging to Mrs. Barnes. Without pausing to make an examination the baggage man handed over to the young woman the brass knob of ownership and hurried the trunk into the baggage car of the south-bound train when it came steaming into the station. When the substitution of the trunks became known telegrams were sent to the railroad officials to hold the trunk, but no answer was received, and it is feared that the young woman, if theft be her object, was bright enough to leave the train at some intermediate station and prevail upon the baggage man to drop the trunk of the train. The trunk is plainly marked with Governor Barnes' name and its contents are valued at between \$500 and \$600. Santa Fe Detective Al Hixon went south this afternoon to search for the trunk.

WESTERN OKLAHOMA BAR

New Association to be Organized on the West Side.

Woodward, O. T., Feb. 24.—(Special).—The members of the bar of Western Oklahoma will meet at Woodward, March 1 to organize the "Western Oklahoma Bar association." The counties interested in this movement are Woods, Woodward, Beaver, Nowata, May, D. Greer and publicly Custer. They will advocate that a separate district, composed of these counties, be made and that it shall be known as the Western district. They will also ask that a western man, a resident of the district, be appointed as presiding judge and will oppose the appointment of a carpet-bagger.

The Hon. A. G. Cunningham has doubtless received the unanimous endorsement of the association for the reason that he is one of the ablest lawyers in the new district and one of the most noted Republican lawyers in Western Oklahoma.

He is an old soldier, a strong administrator and his services, both to his country and his party will doubtless receive this reward, as until now he has never sought or asked for anything.

Those who are at the head of this movement are very strong in favor of the appointment of Cunningham as judge.

TO PROMOTE CORN-EATING

President Morrow Will Assist in the Good Work.

Stillwater, O. T., Feb. 24.—(Special).—President and Director Morrow of the Agricultural College and experiment station has been elected a member of Oklahoma of the executive committee of the recently organized American maize propaganda, the object of which is to promote the larger use of Indian corn in the United States and foreign countries and to develop further the possibilities of the corn plant. Encouragement to the larger use of corn as food for man, its larger use for food for animals in foreign countries and development of new uses of the plant are the chief things aimed at. It is proposed to make an extended exhibit of corn and its products at the Omaha exposition, with a large cooking school illustrating methods of preparing corn as food, and to have a more extended exhibit of the same class at the World's exposition in Paris in 1900.

BAD, BUT CAN'T BE HELPED

What Indian Agents Say of Reservation Timber-Clearing.

El Reno, O. T., Feb. 24.—(Special).—Mr. C. A. Bannister, of this city, took a trip with the Choctaw surveyors down to Major Baldwin's country. He says it is shameful the way the trees are being slaughtered in that section. The finest trees, walnut, oak and cottonwood, are being felled and left to rot on the ground after the timber has been hauled away. On Deer creek, in the Caddo country, the largest trees are being ruthlessly cut down by choppers, who have no legal right to do it, and the trunks are hauled, sometimes twelve miles to Wellford, where they are sawed up in the saw mill for private building timber.

The Eagle correspondent submitted the above to Major Baldwin, who answered as follows: "I can say that I am aware that timber is being cut, but with all my efforts with such assistance as I can get from the marshals, I have not been able to stop it. Captain Fossett has been over the route frequently and while he sees evidence of the cutting he has not for some time been able to detect the parties. The United States marshals and courts are as much in fault as I am in this matter. We know after many years of experience along and on reservations, whether military or Indian, that the ordinary man living near feels he is an outraged citizen if he can't cut timber or do anything else he may wish thereon."

Major Baldwin has on several occasions reported the cutting of timber, but he is powerless to stop it unless more officers are sent into that section of the country. His reservation extends over many miles and it is utterly impossible for any man to keep track of the doings thereon without a force to work with. Marshal Thompson can not, with the force of men he has at hand, look over the territory of Oklahoma and that part of the Indian territory attached for judicial purposes. He is only allowed twelve men for both and it has been proven that his force is inadequate.

While the Cheyennes and Arapahoes were in at the Darlington agency receiving their interest money, lumber and farm implements were stolen from their homes. Major Woodson is not notified of the theft of anything from the Indians who live off the line of the railroad. As in the case of Major Baldwin, Major Woodson is powerless to stop such depredations. The special agent sent from Washington to superintend the leasing of grazing lands at Anadarko, is reported as saying: "Of nineteen extensions who were barred out of the land, all but one submitted a bid. All bids received from local parties are of doubtful responsibility." Major Baldwin was not present at the leasing of the lands and knew nothing of what the bids were going to be. From advice received this morning by the Eagle correspondent, it is almost safe to state the government will cancel all bids and advise for more.

Judge Burford tells the Eagle man he has received his commission, and the chances are he will go to Guthrie tomorrow, and enter upon his duties as chief justice next Saturday.

Hon. J. J. O'Rourke took a trip to Guthrie today. It is rumored that the ex-governor went to Guthrie for the express purpose of looking over the campaign trail for a vigorous campaign next fall. Fusion is not the foregone conclusion that it was a few weeks ago.

Extensive war preparations are going on at Fort Reno. Every spring the government posts throughout the country are polished in fine shape, but this year the work has commenced sooner than usual.

Boards leading into the post are being put in fine condition and the buildings are being brushed up. The war in Cuba does not seem to affect Fort Reno.

REGISTER CROOK RESIGNS

Usual Speculation as to Successor is Rife at Guthrie.

Guthrie, O. T., Feb. 24.—(Special).—A. N. J. Crook, register of the Guthrie land office, has sent in his resignation to the department at Washington, although his commission does not expire until some time next month. J. J. Boles, a local aspirant, has been the most active of the candidates for this particular place, and has not even manifested a disposition to get out of the way of Charles Kneisley, who is credited with similar aspirations, re-inforced by a powerful Washington pull. Mr. Kneisley is the son-in-law of Nathaniel May, a very wealthy Washingtonian, who owns large property interests in Guthrie. Mr. McKay is reputed to wield a wide influence with the senators and government officials and so had, but little trouble in having his son-in-law sent here as chairman of the supposed to carry with it a salary of \$1 per day, but the occupant "gets that amount when he gets it." In other words the office has to pay salaries from fees collected. Mr. Kneisley promptly informed his wealthy father-in-law of his official plight and suggested that if the plan then on foot to bring the Guthrie land office up to the maximum salary basis by the addition of territory from the Perry and Oklahoma City land districts proved successful he would like to succeed Judge Crook as register. This is the reputed story of his intentions, which he was subsequently appointed special land agent, understanding being that he would fill the place only until such time as Register Crook should prove himself equal to official amenities by sending in his resignation.

LONG ADMITS NOTHING

Really no Fresh News Since Sigsbee's First Message.

WHY NO DEAD ARE SHIPPED

Washington Safe if War Comes--Naval Militia.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Bumors of startling discoveries in the wreck of the Maine were less frequent, but there were enough of them still afloat today to warrant Secretary Long in making this statement to the newspaper men as he left his office: "Summing up the situation, I should say that the navy department today knows nothing more about the cause of the disaster than it did five minutes after the receipt of the first dispatch from Captain Sigsbee."

The secretary's attention was drawn to the published statement that Captain Crownshield, chief of the bureau of navigation, had just arrived at Tampa, Fla., on the Montgomery, from a trip to Cuba, where he had been inspecting prospective coaling stations near Matanzas. The secretary's comment was simply this: "Captain Crownshield has not been to Cuba. He has been off on matters not in any wise connected with the business of the navy."

Secretary Long further said that he rather expected to see Captain Crownshield tomorrow.

MEANWHILE, THE WRECKING.

Until the conclusion of the investigation of the court of inquiry at Havana, the principal business of the navy department in connection with the wrecking operations to the conduct of the wrecking operations. Captain Lemly, the judge advocate general, who has this branch of the work immediately in charge, today received telegrams from the Merritt & Chapman Wrecking company at New York, stating that the steamer Merritt and the wrecking lighter Sharpe had sailed for Havana and that the tug Underwriter, with the chief diver, would leave New York Saturday for the same place. The assistant wrecking master was going to Havana on the Ward line steamer Saturday, and it was suggested to the department that its inspector should take the same steamer. Inasmuch as Lieutenant-Commander Kimball, who is now at Havana, has been assigned to the duty of inspecting the wrecking operations, it will not be necessary to observe this suggestion.

SIGSBEE'S REPORT.

The only exact information received by the navy department from Havana during the day was conveyed in Captain Sigsbee's telegram as follows:

"Long, Secretary of the Navy--Wrecking tug Right Arm arrived yesterday. Begins work today. Much encumbering material must be blasted away in detail. Navy divers sent down at seven days' forward four days. Bodies of Jenkins and Merritt not found. Two unidentified bodies of the crew found yesterday. After compartment filled with detached, broken and buoyant furniture and fittings, mud and confusion. Spanish authorities continue offers of assistance and care for wounded and dead. Everything that goes from wreck to the United States should be disinfected. Wrecking company should provide for this. Surgeon of the Maine after consulting with others recommended that all bedding and clothing should be abandoned. Might go to accommodate poor. Useless fittings and equipments might be towed to sea and thrown overboard. Will take all immediate responsibility, but invite department's wishes. Shall old metal of superstructure and like be saved? Friends of dead should be given a time for the calmest judgment, in stead of unguarded talk, wholly without basis of established fact, of a war which would entail the lives of hundreds of thousands of our people."

"This was diplomatic day at the state department, and it brought the usual number of callers upon the secretary of state and Assistant Secretary Bryan. The foreign press was given the usual time for the usual press conference, and the Spanish charge d'affaires, his visit, aside from such matters of routine business as usually brings the diplomats to the state department on Thursday, was to ascertain if the officials had any news from the wreck of the Maine that could properly be communicated to him. In this respect there have been no changes. There have been no telegraphic advices from Consul General Lee of recent date, while the naval dispatches all have been made public from time to time.

At the conclusion of the morning luncheon of not making a chance thorough search, east side of Galveston bay, Texas, was adopted.

At the conclusion of the morning luncheon the vice president laid before the senate the resolution of Mr. Allen (Neb.), which was laid over from yesterday. It provides for the appointment of five senators to make an inquiry into the condition of affairs in Cuba with a view to bringing the war to a peaceful end. Mr. Allen said that being satisfied from the vote on his amendment yesterday that the fate of this resolution was quite sealed, he would withdraw it from further consideration of the senate.

Mr. Hanbrough, N. D., called up the bill extending the homestead law and providing for right of way for railroads in the district of Alaska.

Mr. Rawlins (Utah) objected to consideration of the measure at this time, as it was a subject too important to be taken up hastily.

Mr. Hanbrough then moved that the bill be taken up and Mr. Rawlins demanded the yeas and nays. It was decided 66-33 to proceed with the measure.

After a brief desultory discussion Mr. Hanbrough consented not to press the bill until Mr. Spooner (Wis.) had delivered a speech on the Corbett case.

Mr. Spooner made a legal argument in favor of the admission of Henry W. Corbett to the senate. He said that as a lawyer he felt that he himself had no higher or better right to a seat in the senate than Mr. Corbett.

MILLIONS FOR DEFENSE

House Votes War Money Without a Word Said.

SENATE QUIET ON CUBA

Mr. Allen's Investigation Resolution Withdrawn.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The house devoted itself strictly to business today and disposed of thirty additional pages of the sundry civil appropriation bill. The fact that the government is preparing for contingencies was recognized in the house today, when Chairman Cannon, who has been laboring to keep down appropriations, accepted without a word of protest an amendment to increase the appropriation to care for the unused machinery at the Springfield arsenal.

Mr. Gillette explained that necessity for using this machinery might occur at any time. Resolutions which were objected to a few weeks ago for the appointment of two extra naval cadets to positions in the engineer corps of the navy were also adopted. One of them will fill a vacancy caused by the death of Lieutenant Merritt of the Maine.

The item in the bill placing at the disposal of the quarantine service the government's unexpended epidemic funds, amounting now to \$340,000, created considerable debate. Several southern members desired the appropriation of an additional \$200,000, arguing that in the event of a recurrence of the yellow fever epidemic the funds on hand might not be sufficient. The southern members, however, were not unit in demanding the increased appropriation. Mr. Bailey (Dem., Tex.), for instance, opposed government control of quarantine, declaring that quarantine regulations should be left to the states. Mr. Underwood (Dem., Ala.) also opposed executive control by the federal government, the establishment of such regulations having been advocated by Mr. Carmack (Dem., Tenn.).

An amendment by Mr. Sayers (Dem., Tex.) to increase the fund at the disposal of the quarantine service \$200,000 was lost. The following proviso was ruled out on a point of order raised by Chairman Lacey of the public lands committee, that it was new legislation:

"That hereafter no public moneys shall be expended for the survey of any portion of the public domain embraced within any forest reserves of the United States, except for such surveys as may be necessary to designate the exterior boundaries of such reserves and of such lands within said reserves as may be embraced within or covered by legal claims initiated prior to the date of the proclamation of the reservation."

Mr. Smith (Dem., A. T.) offered an amendment appropriating \$5,000 for the geological survey of Yuma county, Arizona, but it was ruled out on a point of order.

On motion of Mr. De Vries (Dem., Cal.) an amendment was adopted appropriating \$300 for the Yosemite National park, California.

After completing thirty pages of the bill, the committee rose.

The senate bill to prohibit the passage of local or special acts by territorial legislation and to limit territorial indebtedness was passed.

At 3:15 p. m. the house adjourned.

ALLEN'S CUBAN RESOLUTION

Is Quietly Withdrawn and There is no Cuban Debate.

Washington, Feb. 24.—A feature of the senate's session today was the speech of Mr. Spooner (Wis.) on the right of Henry W. Corbett to a seat in the senate from Nebraska. Mr. Spooner made a constitutional argument in favor of seating Mr. Corbett, and had not concluded when the senate adjourned.

An effort was made to obtain consideration of the Alaska homestead and railroad right of way bill, but on a parliamentary technicality it went over.

The resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Allen (Neb.) to appoint a committee of five senators to investigate the Cuban situation was withdrawn by its author when it was laid before the senate.

Washington, Feb. 24.—At the opening of the session today the chaplain brought the throne of grace that in this momentous hour of our history the blessing of Holy Spirit might be granted and rest upon the president and vice president of the United States, both branches of congress and all the people of the country. He prayed that the honor and dignity and rights of our country might be upheld.

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Mr. Spooner said that the primary power to sit in the senate from any state was in the legislature of the state, but in the reading of the constitution it

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War Preparations Proceed in Grim Silence.

IN NAVY YARD AND FORT

Dogs of War Are Being Got Ready to Bite.

"DEATH TO THE SPANISH"

Sentiment is Thunderously Applauded at a Cuban Meeting in New York.

New Haven, Conn., Feb. 24.—In response to orders from the secretary of the navy, Major Buckland, who commands the naval battalion of Connecticut, left for Washington tonight. The order received read as follows:

"Commander Buckland of the Wyandotte will report to the navy department at Washington on Friday."

Although nothing definite as to the import of Mr. Buckland's summons to Washington is known, it is thought that he is to receive instructions about getting his men ready for service at short notice, if necessity arises.

A VETERAN SUMMONED.

Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 24.—Commander Congreve, at Boston, wired to Portland last night to John Dennis, late acting signal quartermaster on the Montgomery, to report at Boston as soon as possible. Mr. Dennis had just finished a twenty years service and was at Portland, on a vacation. Mr. Dennis is of the opinion that an internal explosion on the Maine, with the present system of discipline, was impossible.

RECRUITING AT NEW YORK.

New York, Feb. 24.—Francis M. Duncanson, commandant of the navy yard here, today received from Washington his commission as rear admiral. His official rank up to today was that of commodore.

Recruiting was continued today on the receiving ship Vermont. Up to date only forty-five men had been accepted. About 1,500 would-be volunteers had visited the Vermont since the recruiting began last Monday.

ABOUT RIVER BOATS.

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 24.—Wharfmaster Robert Schmidt received a telegram from the war department at Washington today to the effect that the large military post at this place, was the order from headquarters suspending for the present the order sending light battery H, First artillery, into the mountains on its annual thirty days target practice. The battery, consisting of four pieces and 45 men, under command of Captain Dillonback, were to have started for the artillery target range in the mountains on March 1, but for military reasons were ordered to keep the battery at the fort until further orders. Colonel Louis H. Carpenter, commander of Fort Sam Houston, stated that no reasons were given for detaining the battery at the post.

ACTIVITY AT McPHERSON.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 24.—Activity has never been so great at Fort McPherson as at the present time. The stir is attributable to General Merritt's arrival. Everything is in readiness to move the regiment to any point that may be designated within a few hours.

At an announcement today between Colonel Cook, commandant of the fort, and the railroad officials, Colonel Cook was assured that the men could be transported to Florida within a minute. It is said Colonel Cook told the railroad men to have cars in the yards for use at any hour.

Every precaution is being taken to keep down existing tales and any reports to the effect that the regiment is about to move is denied. It is evident that the preparations plainly signify that it is not an ordinary overhauling of the property and effects of the post.

General Merritt will go to the fort tomorrow morning and inspect the troops. The minutemen of war have been greatly increased during the last few days, and many of the officers are arranging their private affairs in view of their probable departure. They will be called upon to do so. General Merritt was seen tonight, and asked if his arrival in the city was an indication of immediate action on the part of the regiment.

"No," said he, "it is a part of my duty to inspect each post in my division every year, and I have come here merely as a part of my routine work. It is not a warlike movement at all."

FISHERMAN'S RECHARGE.

Chickasaw, Okla., Feb. 24.—Under the commandant at Fort Tancas, Ky., today issued orders relating the men on rifle range at Chickasaw, Ky., back to the fort. New bayonets that can also be used for twisting tools, were loaned to all troops. The men are daily undergoing fatigue drill and expect to go to Key West, la., in the near future, as reported.

The first regiment of the Ohio National guard, located here, is filling up with recruits. Several unauthorized recruiting stations for volunteers have been opened in this city, and their enrollment would more than fill a regiment.

DEATH TO THE SPANISH.

New York, Feb. 24.—The Cuban of this city held a mass meeting at Chickering Hall tonight, to celebrate the third anniversary of the outbreak of the revolution. A number of speakers gave vent to some enthusiastic of free speech. Following an address by Senator George Jones Varona, a flaming-eyed Cuban called out, "Death to the Spanish," and the audience went wild with enthusiasm. There

BULLETIN OF The Wichita Daily Eagle.

Wichita, Friday, February 25, 1898

Weather For Wichita Today: Fair; warmer; variable winds

Sun--Rise, 6:39; Sets 5:47

Moon--Sets 11:21

IMPORTANT NEWS OF TODAY

1. Oklahoma Demo-Pop on Fusion No Maine Secrets Told Yet Money Talks on Cuba Now Preparations For War
2. McKinley's War Words Quoted Colored Farmers' Convention Student Volunteers Convention
3. Grain Weakens With Stocks Stock Market's Sharp Decline
4. Classified Assessment Plan Wins Athletic Contest in Auditorium
5. City and County to Go to War Autonomy Begs to be Accepted
6. News of the Farm News of the Labor World Topics of Domestic Circle

ought to be remembered that this very matter was one of dispute in the constitutional convention. He pointed out that the constitution provided that each state should be the peer of every other state, not in population, not in wealth, not in area, but in the number of its senators. While the constitution could not be amended by the action of two-thirds of the states, it was expressly provided that no state could be deprived of representation in the senate without its consent. It was the purpose, undoubtedly, of the framers of the constitution, in placing in the governor the power to make temporary appointments, to safeguard the rights and interests of the state, so that every state at all times might have full and complete representation in the senate.

An effective point was made by Mr. Spooner when he decided the credentials of John Walker of Virginia, who was appointed to the senate on March 11, 1790, by the governor of Virginia. This case, the first gubernatorial appointment made to the senate under the constitution, Mr. Spooner said, was precisely similar to that now under consideration, as Mr. Walker's credentials showed that the state of Virginia had had the opportunity to fill the vacancy then existing and had failed to do so.

The senate accepted Mr. Walker's credentials and seated him.

"Can it reasonably be held," exclaimed Mr. Spooner, "that the distinguished men sitting in the senate knew less of constitutional law than we know now?"

Just before the conclusion for the day of Mr. Spooner's remarks, Mr. Bacon (Oa.) inquired whether, under all circumstances, in cases of anticipatory vacancy, the senator from Wisconsin (Spooner) held that the governor had a right to make an appointment irrespective of inaction or inability for any reason of the legislature to elect.

Mr. Spooner replied that Mr. Bacon had correctly stated his position. Mr. Bacon then cited the hypothetical case of the legislature being adjourned, and inquired if Mr. Spooner would then advise the governor to make an appointment, and asked Mr. Spooner if he would seal the appointment of the governor.

"Certainly," replied Mr. Spooner, "unless it could be clearly shown to the senate that the appointee was himself implicated in the conspiracy and in the corrupt use of money."

Mr. Hanbrough then endeavored to get before the senate the Alaskan homestead and railway right of way bill, but for military reasons were ordered to keep the battery at the fort until further orders. Colonel Louis H. Carpenter, commander of Fort Sam Houston, stated that no reasons were given for detaining the battery at the post.

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